WRITTEN ANSWERS TO UNSTARRED QUESTIONS

Schemes for Development of NER

1474. SHRI RAJEEV SHUKLA: Will the Minister of DEVELOPMENT OF NORTH-EASTERN REGION be pleased to state:

(a) the schemes which have been implemented for the development of North-Eastern Region during the year 2001;

(b) the schemes likely to be taken during 2002, their financial outlays, dates of completion etc.;

(c) whether these schemes are labour oriented;

(d) if so, the number of persons employed and proposed to be employed in coming up schemes;

(e) whether Bangladeshis are also being employed in such schemes; and

(f) if so, their number?

THE MINISTER OF DEVELOPMENT OF NORTH-EASTERN REGION (SHRI ARUN SHOURIE): (a) The major Schemes which have been implemented or under implementation durng 2001 includes the following:—

(i) 28 Schemes under the Prime Minister's Agenda for Socio-Economic Development of North-Eastern States and Sikkim. The details of these schemes are given in Statement-I. (*See* below)

(ii) The schemes implemented by the North-Eastern Council. Details are given in Statement-II. (*See* below)

(iii) 164 Projects/Schemes, under the Non-Lapsable Central Pool of Resources, have been sanctioned so far since 1998-1999. Details of the Schemes/Projects listed at (i) above are available in the website: pmindia.nic.in

(b) Some of the schemes mentioned in para (a) above are likely to continue during 2002. Some of the major new schemes which are likely to be implemented in 2002 by the North-Eastern Council, along with their financial outlays, are given in

Statement-III. (*See* below) Most of the new schemes are likely to continue during the 10th Plan.

(c) to (f) Significant portion of the outlays in various schemes goes for employment generation. It is difficult to quantify the number of persons employed or proposed to be employed in various schemes. However, on an average approximately 25% to 40% of the project cost include provision for labour component. The persons are engaged by State Governments/executing agencies. No employment is given to foreigners.

Statement-I

Agenda for Socio-Economic Development of North Eastern States and Sikkim

(i) Provision of Rs. 500 crore for Rural Infrastructure Development Fund (RIDF) for North East and Sikkim.

(ii) Provision of banking facilities at all border trading points within one year.

(iii) Disbursing of at least Rs. 50 crore per annum by North East Development Finance Corporation (NEDFI).

(iv) Setting up of an Export Development Fund (EDF) with an initial cost of Rs. 5 crore and work out the modalities for operation.

(v) Development of four border township of Moreh (Manipur), Zokhawther (Mizoram), Dawki (Meghalaya) and Suterkhandi (Assam) in two years at a cost of Rs. 20 crore.

(vi) Setting up of an Empowered Committee to process the recommendations of Inter-Ministerial Task Force on border trade.

(vii) Upgradation of North Eastern Indira Gandhi Regional Institute of Health and Medical Sciences in Shillong at a cost of Rs. 422.60 crore.

(viii) Setting up of a Central University in Mizoram. Passing of a Bill by Lok Sabha and development of infrastructure at a cost of Rs. 25 crore for the University.

(ix) Doubling of number of trainees/Industrial Training Institutes for imparting training in new trades in the next 3 years with an outlays of Rs. 100 crore.

(x) Expansion of the list of items of expenditure incurred by Police eligible for reimbursement, which would include 50% of POL costs, village guards, village defence committees, and home guards.

(xi) Modernisation of Police Force Scheme and its extension to Sikkim and additional reimbursement of Rs. 40 crore per annum for purchase of equipment for police modernisation.

(xii) Sanction of three India Reserve Batallion (IRB) for Tripura, Mizoram and Manipur (estimated expenditure for 3 IRBs for three years will be Rs. 45 crore).

(xiii) (a) Peace Bonus of Rs. 180 crore for Mizoram to tide over its financial problems.

(b) Provision of an outlay of Rs. 50 crore every year from Non-Lapsable Pool of Resources for five years for specific infrastructure development projects of Mizoram.

(xiv) Fencing of remaining portion of Indo-Bangladesh Border, and construction of roads with a total outlay of Rs. 1,335 crore and work to start in April, 2000.

(xv) Streamlining of procedure for selection of projects under Central Non-Lapsable Pool of Resources for North East and sanction of projects worth Rs. 500 crore and to build up infrastructure and take up economic development projects.

(xvi) Implementation of Loktak Downstream Hydro Power Project (90MW) in Manipur at a cost of Rs. 578 crore.

(xvii) Implementation of Teestav Hydro Power Project (510 MW) power project in Sikkim at a cost of Rs. 2,198.04 crore.

(xviii) Initiation of action to ensure that work on Subansiri Lower Side (600 MW) Power project in Arunachal Pradesh commences by December 2001. (Project cost is around Rs. 3,000 crore). [Revised capacity assessed at 1200 MW and cost at Rs. 6000 crore].

(xix) Preparation and implementation of a scheme for rural electrification of 500 tribal villages in North East at a cost of around Rs. 30 crore.

(xx) Additional assistance for implementation of on-going critical, sub-critical transmission system at a cost of Rs. 239.92 crore

(xxi) Civil Aviation:
(a) Provision of Aviation Turbine Fuel to small aircrafts at international prices.
(b) Treatment of Aviation Turbine Fuel for small aircraft as declared good so as to reduce the level of sales tax of 4%.c.
(c) No IATT (Inland Air Travel Tax) for routes operated in the NE States.

(xxii) Sanction of 8 road/bridge projects under NEC with total outlay of Rs. 258.24 Cr.

(xxiii) Provision of at least Rs. 100 crore for development of 12 new National Higways/extension of existing highways covering a total length of 1,962 Km.

(xxiv) Programme to establish computer information Centres in all the 446 blocks in the 7 North Eastern States and 40 blocks in Sikkim and completion of the project in the next 2 years at a minimum cost of Rs. 100 crore.

(xxv) Extending the excise concession under the new industrial policy to the Numaligarh Refinery in Assam.

(xxvi) To reform the Brahmaputra Board and to make its functioning more effective and implementation of flood management schemes.

(xxvii). Sanction of Technology Mission for Horticulture in the current financial year with a total outlay of Rs. 262.50 crore, over the next three years.

(xxviii) Sanction of special programme for development of infrastructure and other facilities in the Bodo Autonomous Council (BAC) Areas with a total outlay of Rs. 30 crore per annum for the three years.

Statement-II

Schemes Implemented by the North Eastern Council in 2001.

1. Development of Agriculture
2. Development of Horticulture
3. Development of Forest & Plant Resources
4. Development of Plantations
5. Development of Animal Husbandary
6. Development of Fisheries
7. Power Development
8. Water Resources Development
9. Rural Renewable Energy
10. Industries & Minerals Development
11. Transport & Communication Development
12. Manpower Development
13. Social & Community Services Development
14. Development of General & Scientific Services
15. NER Community Resource Management Project for Upland Areas.

Statement-III

Major Schemes likely to be undertaken by the North Eastern Council in 2002

(Rs. in lacs)

Sl. No.	Schemes	Financial Outlays
1.	Myntdu-Leshka Hydro Electric Project (2×42 MW), Meghalaya	500
2.	21 MW Gas Thermal Project at Baramura-1, Tripura	100
3.	Lakwa Waste Heat Recovery Project (1×38 MW)	300
4.	Karbi Langpi Hydro Electric Project (2×50 MW)	200
5.	Control of Siltation of Umiam Lake	200
6.	Preservation of Loktak Lake, Manipur	50
7.	Systems Improvement in Power Sector, Transmission Distribution	200
8.	Promotion of Tourism in NER	100
9.	Development of Lengpui Airport	400
10.	Air connectivity in NER	3500
11.	Construction of Inter-State Bus Terminus	1000
12.	Preparation of HRD Report of NER	50
13.	Development of Sports infrastructure under State Government of NER	100
14.	Multipurpose Youth Activities Centre in NER	100
15.	Information Technology Education Programme in NER	1000
16.	IT Application and related Services in NER	150
17.	Communication Network for NER	90
18.	Remote Sensing Applications Programme for NER	50
19.	Disaster Management System for NER (NEC-DOS) and Earthquake Risk Evation/ Awareness/Studies	150

Sl. No.	Schemes	Financial Outlays
20.	Science & Technology Application Oriented Programme	50
21.	Advertisement & Publicity	75
22.	Publications, Informations & Public Relations	50
23.	Development/Rejuvenation of Plantation Crops in NER	100

Disinvestment of BSNL and IBP

1475. SHRI K. C. KONDAIAH: Will the Minister of DISINVESTMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that under the Public Sector Disinvestment Programme his Ministry is considering disinvestment of BSNL and IBP to Tatas and Indian Oil Corporation in the near future;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the action taken/proposed to be taken in regard thereto?

THE MINISTER OF DISINVESTMENT (SHRI ARUN SHOURIE): (a) to (c) Disinvestment in Public Sector Undertakings is a continuous process. As a part of the process, Government keeps considering proposals for disinvestment in various Public Sector Undertakings from time to time. The proposals are considered through Inter-Ministerial consultation and final decisions are taken. No decision has been taken in respect of disinvestment of BSNL. The Government has sold 33.58% of equity of IBP Co. Ltd. of Rs. 7.44 crore to Indian Oil Corporation Ltd. (IOC) for a total consideration of Rs. 1153.68 crore. The Government has handed over the management control of IBP to IOC on 19th February, 2002 after completing the necessary formalities.